/119 cont./

574 would ever enter a house whose occupants were not present. We
576 never succeeded in persuading Victoriano to enter an empty house, although he knew that we were always greatly interested in learning about the interior of houses and their furnishings.

342 The door of the house is only in rare cases a wide board which at the top and bottom on one side runs out into two pegs which turn in a socket, one in the threshold and one in the door-frame. The entrance is generally constructed in the same fashion as the wall (ind), which /120/ consists of vertical maize stalks placed next to one another as closely as possible and lashed by means of bast or a liana to one another and to two horizontal maize stalks. The latter always reach from side post to side post. At the place for the door, the rigid wall is interrupted, and the vertically placed maize stalks, only loosely bound with bast, may be shoved a little to one side, whereby they drag along the ground (Ill. 158 /see p. 270/).

[231] Dogs, cats, and chickens are kept in the houses, but not pigs, which live out of doors all the time, exactly like the cows, horses, and sheep.

c) Household Implements

Generally the house has only one division into two rooms, the smaller of which is the kitchen, living room, and bedroom, the larger serving as storage and supply room. The wall between these two rooms is likewise only made out of maize stalks set next to one another vertically. In the "large" houses the larger [249] part contains the sugar mill, by means of which undiluted sugar-[404] cane juice may be produced, even in rainy weather. In case 596 adult married sons live in their father's house, a separate com-342 partment divided off in the same manner is built for these families and furnished as a kitchen, either next to the living room of the parents or -- as in most cases -- on the other side of the ● 354 house. The hearth area is the family center, and every married 596 woman, in case she is living as a daughter-in-law in the house of the father-in-law, has her own hearth area. The latter has the simplest possible form.

/120 cont./
the simplest possible form. Three rocks provide the lateral support or stand for the pots, of which there are two at most, a metal one, usually of aluminum, and an earthen one. Very poor families have only one earthen pot, which is relatively cheap to buy. The earthen pot cannot be hung up; it is set between the three fire-stones in such a way that it cannot tip over, whereas the aluminum pot is hung by its handle on a soot-covered, angled stick that hangs down from the ridge (Ill. 166 /see p. 273/). Above the fire area there hangs a frame made of maize canes and about one square meter in size, on which household utensils and, above all, the rock salt for salting food are stored, airy and dry. Tables, chairs, or stools of any kind are unknown. One generally sits on the hairy side of an untanned and hence board-stiff cowhide, on which one also /121/ sleeps, or one sits on a beam, a block of wood, or a stone. Paez who have seen house furnishings in Inzá or in the dwellings of white colonists have sometimes built for themselves as a bed a sort of bench 30-50 centimeters high, consisting of sticks or reeds laid side by side. For sleeping the customary cowhide is spread on it. These sleeping benches are not used for sitting.

The nights in Calderas are generally quite cool, and the light construction of the walls with cracks between the individual maize stalks does not in any way prevent the cold wind from coming in. In a few houses, near the sleeping area, I saw the walls sealed by means of expressed sugar-cane piled up horizontally. For sleeping, the members of the family lie down in a circle around the fire area, where the fire must be kept going all through the night. This, like all housework, is the task of the woman, who must gather sufficient fuel beforehand and get up every two hours during the night to stir up the fire. Furthermore, she must get up an hour earlier in the morning in order to have the first meal, which is eaten around five o'clock, sometimes even at four o'clock, prepared on time. In spite of this, the men think that they are the ones who do the hardest work and that basically they are the only ones in the village who really work.

/176 cont./

623 himself does not punish. For this purpose four representatives of
666 the lower offices have an official whip which consists of a rod ten
696 centimeters long, with a plaited strap about 80 centimeters long.

The election itself proceeds with the introduction of the candi-
623 dates by the capitan with the question: "This one as gobernador,
624 do you want him?" And they reply: "We wish it" or "we do not
666 wish it." It was interesting to observe how, after the death of the capitan, one of his relatives, Cerbelión Guagáz, tried to be named capitan. The priest, however, insisted on an election by the village. And although he tried very hard to have Cerbelión elected, the village kept refusing him because he was too autocratic and such people are not liked. Another whom everyone would like to have as capitan is himself unwilling. "As capitan I am only the beadle of the padre," he replied to my question as to why he did not accept the choice. And he had no desire for that. He had been comisario once and gobernador once, and now he wanted peace for the rest of his life.

2) Family Organization

594 The family of the Paez is basically the patrilineal nuclear family /Kleinfamilie/ consisting of the parents and unmarried
[513] children. The latter, while they are small, sleep with the parents in the kitchen; as soon as they are larger, in a compartment in
591 another part of the house. After marriage they erect their own house.
596 It is not uncommon, however, for the married sons to live with their wives for another year or two in the house of the father, until they have enough money for a house, which will be small at first. The daughters upon marriage leave /177/ the paternal home and then live with their husbands, that is to say, at first with the parents-in-law.

354 Normally, therefore, every house has only one cooking
596 place, in which the woman of the house cooks. If a son marries,
252 a new kitchen is partitioned off and a second place built for the
[462] fire at which the young wife cooks. As a matter of principle, each married couple -- and it alone -- has its own fire area, for the wife is always responsible for the food. Men do not cook.

1: Nachtigall--299 E-5 (1952-1953) 1955 SC15 Paez SC15

/CXXI cont./

Plate LXXXV

100

Ill. 161. Framework of a house.

Ill. 162. Dwelling of the civilized Paez being built. The walls are filled with earth to the thickness of a post.

Ill. 163 and 164. Construction details of a Paez house.

Plate LXXXVI

Ill. 165. House annex with the chicha trough. In front of the man's stomach hangs the colorfully patterned coca pouch. Married women wear their hair plaited in a braid.

[585]
[302]

[352] Ill. 166. The interior of a Paez house. Tables, benches, and beds are lacking. At night they sleep on the floor around the hearth made of three field stones.

[513]
[354]

Plate LXXXVII

Ill. 167. House garden of the Paez with bananas, sugar cane, and yuca.

[417] Ill. 168. Maize field with fence. A notched tree-trunk serves as ladder.

Plate LXXXVIII

Ill. 169. Portion of a field readied for burning. The tree growth has been cut off at hip height.

Ill. 170. Land used by the village, with black surfaces of the fields burned off in preparation for sowing.

Plate LXXXIX

[244] Ill. 171. Paez burning felled trees. The ashes serve as fertilizer.

Ill. 172. Men setting out sugar-cane shoots with the digging stick.

2: Pittier de Fábrega E-4, 5 (1906) 1907
SC15 Paez SC15

They represent the Spanish type of
habitation, the agglomerations being the result of the efforts of 342 [177]
the missionaries.

The villages are generally in the open grazing districts at the 361
bottom of the valleys, on side plateaus, or on broad ridges. They are not compact in the common sense of the word, but consist of isolated groups of houses, the approximate common center of which is often indicated by the whitewashed thatch-roofed church (plate v).

The walls of the permanent houses are made of a kind of 342
bajareque, i. e., a skeleton of canes filled in with clay. In the 353
better homes the interior is divided into two or more rooms, usually very small, with a hearth in the middle; but oftener [354]
there are no interior partitions, the dwelling consisting of a single square apartment. In every case that came under my [356]
observation the interior was very untidy.

The Indians openly objected to our entering their houses, 352
hence I could gain only casual glimpses of their domiciles, the 123
furnishing of which seems to be an imitation of that of the 177
dwellings of the few Spanish people living among them or in the immediate neighborhood.

Outside the houses they generally have a cane-crusher of 407
primitive type, with horizontal smooth cylinders moved by means of levers at each end. A loom and a grinding stone are 286
also seen occasionally under an adjacent shelter (plates IV, 1, 412
and VI, 2).

There may often be seen, either about or inside the house, 415
very large jars used as receptacles in the elaboration of the chicha. These utensils seem to be almost the only survival of the ancient earthenware industry. The smaller pottery vessels which were seen occasionally had been taken from old graves. [192]

Each group of houses, in which several generations of a 351
single family dwell, is surrounded by a small enclosed field, [592]
planted with sugar-cane, plantains, oranges and other fruits, and greens and roots of daily use. The garden enclosure is formed by a ditch, inside of which is a wooden fence or a stone wall, the latter often crowned by a hedge of maguey (*Furcraea*), [247]
lechero (*Euphorbia*), borrachero (*Solanum*), and other bushes.

1 [See plate facing P. 317 – Analyst]

2 [See plate facing P. 320 – Analyst]

/210 cont./

796 two small ones, a skyrocket, and a firecracker; in addition, an
431 assistant carries a pot of chicha. The procession moves slowly forward. The albacero and his wife, on the other hand, have also left their home, with their retinue of attendants, the shooting of firecrackers, and the strains of music, carrying with them the same gifts as those brought by the fiesteros: chicha, aguardiente, cake, firecrackers, skyrockets, and
●[354] candles. An assistant carries a showy lamp, made of flexible rods in hemispherical shape, adorned with a white pellicle similar to paper, obtained from the cabuya (1), and flowers

1. Fourcroya andina.

of various colors; it has four reeds to hold the candles.

The albacero waits for the fiestero very close to his home.

At the moment of the meeting, the fiestero and his wife each take one of the church banners and they take candles, which in turn are also lighted by the albacero and his wife. They exchange them: the fiestero with the albacero, and
796 their wives with each other. Then they kneel, with the men
576 face to face and the women likewise. The fiestero presents
431 the ceremonial greeting:

--"My friend: we are meeting at this spot. I have come to see you. Accept this small cake, even though it is quite tasteless."

--"Here we are together at this spot," replies the albacero.

796 While they are saying these words, they touch each other's
431 left shoulder with the right hand and press it; the wives greet
[576] each other in the same manner; following this, the fiestera greets the albacero, and the fiestero greets the latter's wife. The same protocol is observed. Immediately afterwards they exchange the gifts, the husbands on the one hand, and the wives on the other. Everything is distributed among their respective attendants. Only the candles are retained.

7:Hernández de Alba E-8,V(no date) 1948 SC15 Paez SC15
Moguex

342
[177] Some had wooden doors and windows, and were built with nails and wires, though most were still made with vegetable materials.

The modern *Moguex* house has two rooms. The main one, entered through a small door, serves as storeroom for goods to be sold, reception hall, dancing place, and a room in which to keep watch over the dead. The other is a pantry for provisions and drinks; here are kept kitchen utensils. In the center is the fireplace and around it dried cowhides or platform beds made of horizontal poles tied to stakes driven in the ground. One's neighbors aid him to build his house, transporting heavy timbers over light rollers and singing rhythmically as they heave together. If the owner of a new house is a man of means, he pays for a feast of benediction or consecration carried out with a Catholic priest, a godfather, and a godmother.

The *Páez* does all this and in addition puts some pieces of silver money under his house to assure his good fortune. In the main house he places the metate on stakes, and in a secondary house, the press for extracting wax from laurel, one or more troughs or hollowed trunks, and large jars for chicha and guarapo. From the roof frame hang bags, or "mochilas," of netted hemp for belongings. There is also a bamboo candlestick, the wooden feast drum, sometimes a tiple or small guitar, and, nailed to the wall, a spindle. Outside, the loom stands against the wall Beyond it is the sugarcane mill, which is made of a section of tree trunk with a hole above a projection on which the cane is pressed by hand with a rod which crosses the hole. Some mills consist of two or three wooden cylinders rotated by animal power.

In each maize field is a small, temporary house and a high platform where a watchman frightens the parrots and parakeets with periodic cries and motions.

Each *Páez* group today has its communally built pueblo, with "bahareque" buildings grouped around a rectangular plaza: a church, with its arched portico and small tower in imitation of Colonial architecture, a house for the priest, a school, and two or three large houses for meetings and fiestas, where they dance, sing, and sleep during fiesta days. But ordinarily, the people remain at their distant houses and fields, and do not live at the pueblo, the only permanent inhabitants of which are a few Whites and Mestizos.

ENGINEERING WORKS

The Spaniards found bridges which they described as "weak and flexible bridges of bamboo" and "bridges of vines." A territory so broken and crossed with so many rivers and canyons naturally stimulated the *Páez* in the construction of bridges and the laying out of roads. Today they make four kinds of bridges: (1) A simple vine or cable stretched across the river; (2) a kind of wooden stairs placed

?tHernández de Alba E-5½(no date) 1948 SC15 Paez SC15
Moguex

286 [386] blue, the fruit of the jagua palm (kii), probably *Genipa* sp. A woven fabric is made black by burying it for several days with clay and branches of a *Phyllanthus* which they call "sal."

[531] They make woolen bags by hand, using a kind of crochet technique without needles, and decorate them with rectangular and rhomboid figures. Some bags are made of hemp (fique), in which case the stitches are larger and the article has greater elasticity.

411 **Weapons.**—For weapons, the *Páez* used large, thick lances of black [824] or chonta palm, 20 to 25 palms or more long, clubs or macanas, stones [171] thrown with slings, large rocks rolled down from heights, spear throwers like those used by the *Chibcha*, and shields of jaguar, puma, or [179] bear skin. The *Páez* quickly adopted iron arms from the Spaniards, and in the last wars of the Conquest they used steel swords and knives. [172] In a recently discovered grave were copper bells, a golden breastplate, shield bars of tumbaga, a Spanish dagger, and a curved knife of the Arabian or north African type used by the conquistadors.

[223] Today the *Páez* use the club or macana, ordinary guns, machetes, knives, and, for killing birds, the blowgun.

● 354 **Fire making.**—Fires are generally made today with flint and steel, [372] but some Indians use modern matches. For both heating and cook- [177] ing, the fire is made on the ground in the main house, surrounded by stones which help support the pots. It is covered at night, and almost never goes out.

354 824 [388] Illumination is provided not only by the fire but by candles made of wax from the wax palm and from seeds of a wild laurel. The latter are cooked and pressed in a bag so that the wax drips into a half calabash or pot to form a semispherical lump. It is melted to make candles with cotton wicks. The *Páez* use these themselves and also sell them, for they are superior to candles made of animal tallow. A cruder means of lighting consists of transfixing a large number of "higuerilla" seeds on a long, thin bamboo splinter. When the splinter is laid horizontally and lighted, the first seed burns strongly, after which the flame passes from seed to seed, lasting some 15 minutes and throwing a fair light a few feet around.

COMMERCE

438 439 Each week a market is held in the municipio or in some of the small native villages (pls. 190, 191). The Indians sell vegetables, tortillas, eggs, chickens, and laurel wax, and buy salt, brown sugar, and espe- [435] cially lime (mambe) to be chewed with coca. Each product has a price in Colombian money, whether by quantity or weight. The unit [804] of weight is called an "egg," and more or less equals the weight of a [273] chicken egg. After his few customary transactions, paid for either in cash or in terms, in which the future coffee crop is mortgaged to the